

translation

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TREATY



PCT 10/526989

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P801721/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DE2003/002927	International filing date (day/month/year) 03 September 2003 (03.09.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 05 September 2002 (05.09.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B23K 26/42		
Applicant.	DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG	

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 29 March 2004 (29.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 14 December 2004 (14.12.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/DE2003/002927

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed the description:

pages 1-8, as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

 the claims:

pages 1-4, as originally filed

pages , as amended (together with any statement under Article 19

, filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

 the drawings:

pages , as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages , as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages _____ the claims, Nos. _____ the drawings, sheets/fig _____5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	YES
	Claims	1-4
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims	1-4
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: WO 99/08829 A (GU HONGPING; POWERLASERS LTD (CA)) 25 February 1999 (1999-02-25)

D2: DE 44 07 190 A (THYSSEN LASER TECHNIK GMBH) 7 September 1995 (1995-09-07)

D3: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN Vol. 1999, No. 05, 31 May 1999 (1999-05-31) & JP 11 047967 A (NEC CORP), 23 February 1999 (1999-02-23)

1. The subject matter of claim 1 is not novel (PCT Article 33(2)):

D1, page 4, lines 1 to 11, and figure 2, discloses a method as defined in claim 1.

It should be noted that, although D1 does not explicitly disclose a scanner arrangement, the phrase "manipulating the focussing optics" on page 4, lines 5 and 6, suggests the use of such an arrangement to a person skilled in the art. A laser scanner arrangement is likewise known in the prior art; see, for example, D2, figure 5.

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It should also be noted that the description of the laser beam as a narrowing spiral about the centre of its working surface is a second alternative of the method ("and/or").

2. The subject matter of claims 2 to 4 is likewise not novel (PCT Article 33(2)) since the features of these claims are known from D1.